

**Illinois State Board of Education  
New U.S. Department of Education Race and Ethnicity Data Standards**

**AN INTRODUCTION TO UPCOMING CHANGES**

States are required to implement by fall 2010 new federal standards for identifying the race and ethnicity of individuals and for reporting aggregate data to the U.S. Department of Education. *The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) will implement the standards starting with data to be reported for the 2010-11 school year.*

**A Comparison of the Existing and New Federal Race and Ethnicity Categories**

Existing Federal Categories <sup>1, 2</sup>	New Federal Categories <sup>2</sup>
• American Indian or <u>Alaskan</u> Native	• American Indian or <u>Alaska</u> Native (same)
• Black	• Black <u>or African American</u> (same)
• Hispanic	• Hispanic <u>or Latino</u> (same)
• White	• White (same)
• Asian or Pacific Islander	Split into two categories: • Asian • Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
<sup>1</sup> Illinois also has a "Multiracial/Ethnic" category. <sup>2</sup> "Hispanic" and "Hispanic or Latino" are ethnicity categories. All other categories are race categories.	

**Re-Identification**

School districts will need to re-identify race and ethnicity for all students and staff. Identification for students should be done by their parents/guardians. Observer identification by school/district staff is required if a student's parents/guardians decline to indicate race and/or ethnicity.

Respondents must answer a two-part question to indicate ethnicity and one or more of five<sup>2</sup> races. Hispanic/Latino is considered an ethnicity, not a race. **The two-part question—with the ethnicity part asked first—is required.**

1. **Hispanic/Latino** (Choose only one.):
  - No, not Hispanic/Latino
  - Yes, Hispanic/Latino
2. **Race** (Choose one or more, regardless of ethnicity status selected above.):
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Asian
  - Black or African American
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - White

**New Federal Reporting Categories**

States will be required to use seven mutually exclusive categories to report aggregate data to the federal government. **Starting in 2010-11, Illinois school districts will use these categories to report individual-level and aggregate data to ISBE.**

- Hispanic/Latino of any race
- American Indian or Alaska Native who are not Hispanic/Latino
- Asian who are not Hispanic/Latino
- Black or African American who are not Hispanic/Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander who are not Hispanic/Latino
- White who are not Hispanic/Latino
- Two or more races (includes all who chose more than one race and are not Hispanic/Latino)

**Recordkeeping**

Records, including the original individual responses to the two-part question, must be kept for three years. However, when there is litigation, a claim, an audit, or another action involving records, the records must be retained until the completion of the action. As necessary, ISBE may request the response details from districts.

**Questions may be directed to the Data Analysis and Progress Reporting Division at 217/782-3950.**

For more information, see "Final Guidance on Maintaining, Collecting, and Reporting Racial and Ethnic Data to the U.S. Department of Education," *Federal Register*, October 19, 2007, at <http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/other/2007-4/101907c.pdf>.